GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2071
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2015
VAN PANCHAYATS
Reddy Shri J.C. Divakar

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether women are taking the lead role in reviving and maintaining civil forests under Van Panchayats even in the face of several obstacles; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. Presently, Van Panchayats are existing only in Uttarakhand. As per information provided by the Forest Department, Government of Uttarakhand, women are playing an important role in protection of civil forests, as they are aware about the role of forests in soil and water conservation as well as for providing fuel and fodder. Women self help groups (SHGS) have been formed in the villages, which are raising nurseries and taking other forestry activities. 50% of the Van Panchayat Sarpanch posts have been reserved for women as per the provisions of Van Panchayat Niyamawali, 2005 & 2012.